Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a fiber bundle having a fiber bundle length from a required number of unbound partial bundles, the method comprising:

(a) transporting at a first speed a fiber bundle strand using at least one feed element;

(b) pre-cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having a length when pre-cut equal to the fiber bundle length;

(c) releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;

(d) gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element and moving the unbound partial bundles at a speed that is less than the first speed;

(e) releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one gripping element; and

(f) placing the unbound partial bundles in a first collection trough of a collection device; and

(g) repeating steps (a) to (f) for the required number of unbound partial bundles until a required thickness of the fiber bundle is obtained in the first collection trough.

2 to 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing fiber bundles having a fiber bundle length comprising the steps of:

transporting at a first speed a fiber bundle strand using at least one feed element;

pre-cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having a length when pre-cut equal to the fiber bundle length;

releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;

gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element;

moving the unbound partial bundles at a speed that is less than the first speed;

releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one gripping element;

placing the unbound partial bundles having the same lengths in a first collection trough of a collection device; and

rotating the collection device after the first collection trough is filled and placing the unbound partial bundles in a further collection trough of the collection device.

6 to 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a filter element for a dialyzer, the filter element including a fiber bundle having a fiber bundle length from a required number of unbound partial bundles, the method comprising:

(a) transporting at a first speed a fiber bundle strand using at least one feed element;

(b) pre-cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having a length when pre-cut equal to the fiber bundle length;

(c) releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;

(d) gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element and moving the unbound partial bundles at a speed that is less than the first speed;

(e) releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one gripping element; and

(f) placing the unbound partial bundles in a first collection trough of a collection device; and

(g) repeating steps (a) to (f) for the required number of unbound partial bundles until a required thickness of the fiber bundle is obtained in the first collection trough.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a filter element for a dialyzer, the filter element including fiber bundles having a fiber bundle length comprising the steps of:

transporting at a first speed a fiber bundle strand using at least one feed

element;

pre-cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having a length when pre-cut equal to the fiber bundle length;

releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;

gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element;

moving the unbound partial bundles at a speed that is less than the first speed;

releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one gripping element;

placing the unbound partial bundles having the same lengths in a first collection trough of a collection device; and

rotating the collection device after the first collection trough is filled and placing the unbound partial bundles in a further collection trough of the collection device.